

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 1 ~~Whirlpool~~ Whirlpool Bathtub With Releasable Bottom Element.

Page 1, before the first paragraph, insert the following new subheading  
(centered):

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Page 3, before the paragraph beginning on line 31 with "The object is," insert the following new subheading (centered):

### **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Page 3, replace the paragraph beginning on line 31 with "The object is," with the following amended paragraph:

The object is achieved with a whirlpool bathtub ~~and a valve device of the type mentioned in the introduction, which are characterized by the features which are indicated in the claims,~~ comprising a tub part with a bottom which is provided with through-flow apertures for supplying air to water in the whirlpool bathtub, and devices for supplying air to through-flow apertures, characterized in that the bottom is provided with at least one recess which is flow-relatedly connected with the devices for supply of air, that each recess is surrounded by a substantially horizontal sealing edge, that each recess is covered by a bottom element which abuts sealingly against the recess's sealing edge, with the result that the recess and the bottom element together form a distributing chamber for air, and that the bottom elements are provided with through-flow apertures for air from the supply chambers to water in the whirlpool bathtub.

Page 3, after the amended paragraph beginning on line 31, insert the following new paragraph and subheading (centered):

It is also achieved with a valve device for a whirlpool bathtub, for supplying air to the whirlpool bathtub and drawing water from the whirlpool bathtub, characterized in that it comprises a valve housing, at least two horizontal outlets for air, a substantially vertical inlet for water and a substantially vertical outlet for water, the outlets for air are provided in a plane between the inlet for water and the outlet for water, and it comprises a valve for closing the outlet for water, comprising a substantially horizontal valve seat in the housing and a vertically movable closing body which by means of a lifting device is movable between an open position where water is permitted to flow through the valve device and a closed position where an outlet closing portion of the closing body abuts against the valve seat, closing the outlet for water.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 3A, before the paragraph beginning on line 8 with "Figure 1 illustrates," insert the following new heading (centered)

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Page 4, replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with "The tub part 21," with the following amended paragraph:

The tub part 21 is advantageously ~~moulded~~ molded from an artificial ~~[[fibre]]~~ fiber material, preferably ~~glass-fibre~~ glass-fiber reinforced polyester, but it may alternatively be made in other known ways such as, e.g., vacuum forming of sheet material, for example acryl. In the illustrated, preferred embodiment the recesses 2A, 2b are circular and of equal size. Even though the circular shape offers special advantages, the

recesses may well have a different shape within the scope of the invention. The recesses may have different sizes, and their number may differ from two.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)